

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

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Claims 1-53. (Cancelled)

Claim 54. (New) A method of isolating a neural stem cell from an innervated mammalian tissue, the method comprising: providing an innervated tissue; dissociating the tissue and exposing the dissociated tissue to an enzyme that degrades tissue; and triturating the degraded tissue such that differentiated cells are destroyed.

Claim 55. (New) The method of claim 54, further comprising separating the neural stem cell from the destroyed differentiated cells.

Claim 56. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the innervated mammalian tissue is tissue from a heart, bladder, intestine, lung, liver, kidney, pancreas, or adrenal medulla.

Claim 57. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the enzyme is trypsin.

Claim 58. (New) The method of claim 54, further comprising culturing the isolated stem cell in the presence of a cytokine and triturating the culture before the stem cell sends out an axon or dendrite.

Claim 59. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the neural stem cell is a neuroendocrine cell.

Claim 60. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the mammalian tissue is a tissue from a human.

Claim 61 (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the mammalian tissue is a tissue from a mouse, rat, guinea pig or hamster.

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